

Reflections on the Present Condition of the United States.

Editor Empire—This, my countrymen, is a perilous and tremendous moment. It is not a time for adulation. The smoothness of prosperity cannot save us in this rugged and awful crisis.

It is time that Truth was once told. We must if possible dispel the delusions and darkness which envelop it, and display in its full danger and genuine colors the ruin and desolation of our country, and the enormity of our debt. Can we still expect sympathy and support from foreign nations in our infatuation? Can our Congress be so dead to its dignity and duty, as to give support to measures so ultra and unwarrantable, as characterize its last session?

Measures which have reduced this late prosperous and happy country to scorn and contempt. But yesterday "and the United States might have stood against the world—new no so poor to do her reverence." The South we at first despised as rebels, but whom we now acknowledge as enemies, are abetted against you, supplied with military stores, (and Uncle Sam has been one of the agents,) and their ambassadors entreated by Foreign Powers and our Ministers do not dare to interpose with dignity and effect. The demobilization of our army (caused by the issuing of Negro Proclamations and Imbecile Commanders,) is only in part known. The lives that have been lost number by thousands, and the bones of those brave men are bleaching on a Southern soil. But yesterday that 20,000 as brave and well disciplined soldiers as ever marched to battle was slain in a single day, under Burnside at Fredericksburg, and their blood makes the water of the Rappahannock crimson. Oh, what tales of horror, blood and carnage will history reveal to posterity. No man more highly esteems and honors the Union soldiers than I do. I know their spirit and valor, I know that they can achieve anything except impossibilities, and I know that the eradication of Slavery or the subjugation of the South are impossibilities. You cannot whip them back into the Union. What is our present situation? "We do not know the worst." But we know that there has been raging a civil war in our land for two years, and that we have done nothing, but suffered much.

You may swell your expense to \$5,000,000 (it being now \$3,000,000) a day and strain every effort, accumulate every assistance, free the slave, and urge those yet in bondage to insurrection, rapine, fire and murder, and your attempt to bring these people (the South) back into the Union, will be vain and impotent, doubly so indeed from the Negro aid on which you would rely; for it irritates to an incurable resentment the minds of your adversaries to overrun them with negro savages gonded on by their white allies to commit acts of rapine, murder and plunder, devoting them and their possessions to the rapacity of savage cruelty, to delegate to the negro the right to wage the horrors of a barbarous war against our brethren to have a second St. Domingo.

My countrymen these enormities cry aloud for redress, punishment and rebuke, familiarize our soldiers to the horrid scenes of an insurrection; our army could no longer boast of the noble and generous principle which dignified a soldier. No longer would the feeling awake to the pride, pomp and circumstance of glorious war. But the sense of honor degraded into a vile spirit of plunder and the systematic practice of murder. From the long connection between the North and South both sections derived the most important advantage. When united we were mighty powerful wealthy prosperous and a happy nation. It is not a band of rogues whom we oppose. The resistance of the South according to the idea is made to secure to them their peculiar institutions and their property. Let us then seize with eagerness the first opportunity for peace, reconciliation and restoration of the Old Union on a basis of compromise honorable to both sections. Let us give them the assurance that we do not wish to interfere with their institutions. That we do not desire to rob them of their property. There are men of the South who have not yet finally given up all hopes of the restoration of the Union made by our fathers.

There yet remains a possibility of escape from the fatal effect of our delusions in this complicated crisis of danger, weakness and calamity.

Where is the man who will venture to flatter us with the hope of success from the perseverance in measures productive of these dire effects. You cannot conciliate the South by your present measures. You cannot subdue her by your present or any measures.

What can you do; you cannot conquer, you cannot gain but you can address the people.

Yes my countrymen since our Congress have neither sagacity to foresee, nor justice nor humanity to shun these calamities—since not even bitter experience can make them feel, nor the imminent ruin of their country awaken them from their stupification the guardian care of the Democratic Party must interpose and the result will be The Constitution as it is and The Union as it was.

The Philadelphia Journal suggests the idea of colonizing the Abolitionists instead of the negroes.

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